

November 20, 1999. The international application under PCT article 21(2) was not published in English.--

Also on Page 1, delete lines 11-13 and insert the following paragraphs:

--DE 27 33 658 A has already disclosed phosphonic acid derivatives of the formula $R_1-N(OR_2)-A-P(O)(OH)_2$, in which R_1 denotes hydrogen or acyl, R_2 denotes hydrogen, Ar-lower-alkyl or acyl and A is a lower alkylene, lower alkenylene or lower hydroxyalkylene group, preferably formyl, acetyl or trimethylene, together with the esters and pharmaceutical salts thereof. These compounds are used for the therapeutic treatment of infections which are caused by bacteria.

The object of the present invention is accordingly to provide alternative substances which are usable in infections by bacteria and also in infections by viruses, fungi and parasites in humans and animals and as a fungicide, bactericide and herbicide in plants and which meet the above-stated requirements.--

Page 3, for the second full paragraph, please substitute the following paragraph:

-- X_3 and X_4 OX_3 and OX_4 , and X_3 and X_4 are preferably hydrogen, a metal of main groups I, II or III of the periodic

AB system, ammonium, substituted ammonium or ammonium compounds derived from ethylenediamine or amino acids. In other words, the salt compounds of the organophosphorus compounds are formed with organic or inorganic bases (for example sodium salt, potassium salt, calcium salt, aluminium salt, ammonium salt, magnesium salt, triethylamine salt, ethanolamine salt, dicyclohexylamine salt, ethylenediamine salt, N,N'-dibenzylethylenediamine salts) as well as salts with amino acids (for example arginine salt, aspartic acid salt, glutamic acid salt etc.) and the like.--

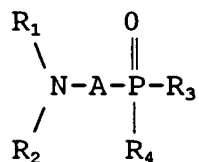
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A marked-up version of the prior pending paragraph showing the changes made is attached as Exhibit A.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-13 and replace them with new claims 14-26 as follows:

--14. Organophosphorus compounds of the general formula (I)



(I)

in which R₁ and R₂ are identical or different and are selected from the group which consists of hydrogen, substituted and unsubstituted C₁₋₉ alkyl, substituted and unsubstituted hydroxy-C₁₋₉-alkyl, substituted and unsubstituted C₁₋₉ alkenyl, substituted and unsubstituted C₁₋₉ alkynyl, substituted and unsubstituted